

COUNTY BOROUGH OF EASTBOURNE

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

School Medical Officer

for the Year 1952

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SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

STAFF (1952)

(a) Full-time Officers

School Medical Officer:

JOHN FENTON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Deputy School Medical Officer:

E. MARY CUMMING, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (To 30.6.52)

JESSIE GRIFFIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (From 1.7.52)

Assistant School Medical Officer:

JESSIE GRIFFIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (To 30.6.52)

MARJORIE I. GODSON, M.B., Ch.B. (From 23.6.52)

Senior Dental Officer:

MAURICE G. BERRY, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Assistant Dental Officer:

Miss JEAN D. OSWALD, L.D.S., R.F.P.S.G.

School Nurses:

Miss K. M. AVIS (Senior), S.R.N., S.C.M. Part 1, H.V.Cert., Public Health Nursing Administration Certificate.

Miss J. C. M. BERK, S.R.N., S.C.M. Part I, H.V.Cert.

Mrs. L. FOSTER, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss E. E. GRIFFIN, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Mrs. S. M. JAMES, S.R.N., S.C.M., Part I, H.V.Cert.

Miss M. I. PARTRIDGE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Mrs. P. D. M. St. JOHN JONES, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss M. G. HEMMING, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert. (From 1.11.52)

Mrs. W. CLEMENTS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert. (From 12.3.52).

Mrs. D. M. BATES, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert. (To 31.12.52).

Miss P. IVORY, S.R.N., S.C.M., Part I, H.V.Cert. (To 26.1.52).

(The School Nurses are also Health Visitors).

Clerks:

Miss B. DOUCH (Senior)

Miss J. M. WRIGHT (From 11.1.52)

Miss V. R. KNIGHT (To 31.1.52)

Dental Attendants:

Miss D. S. JACKSON

Miss P. L. KNOX (From 26.5.52)

Miss M. K. WILSON (To 31.5.52)

(b) Part-time officers

Orthodontic Specialist:

NORMAN GRAY, H.D.D., L.D.S., R.C.S.

Child Guidance Service:

DORIS KATHLEEN SMALL, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.M.

Miss MARY GARSON, M.A., A.B.Ps., Educational Psychologist.

Miss P. LOMAX, Social Science Certificate, Psychiatric Social Worker.

Miss E. D. SMITH, Clerk.

Speech Therapist:

Mrs. K. HANSFORD, L.C.S.T.

SCHOOL HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
AVENUE HOUSE,
EASTBOURNE.

May, 1953.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the forty-fifth Annual Report on the health of the school child in Eastbourne, and on the work of the School Health Department for the year 1952.

During the whole of the year under review the School Health Service was administered by my predecessor in office, Dr. John Fenton, and it is therefore fitting that this report should be submitted in the form adopted by him in previous years.

Insofar as the health of the school population may be judged from the results of the customary routine medical examinations and other special examinations, it is clear that a high standard has been maintained.

The presence, however, of a recognisable physical defect is an index of considerable distortion of at least one system of the delicate and growing tissues of a child's body. Whilst defects continue to occur, as they do in varying degrees in all school communities in this country, there remains vital preventive work for the School Health Service. In this connection it is of interest to note that the School Nurses hold dual appointments of Health Visitor and School Nurse which makes possible a continuity of child care from birth until school leaving age.

In the light of the considerable deficiencies which have occurred throughout the country in the School Dental Service due to staff shortages, it is pleasing to note that inspections and treatment are in Eastbourne so well up to date.

Dr. Jessie Griffin was promoted to Deputy School Medical Officer on July 1st following the resignation of Dr. E. Mary Cumming. Dr. Marjorie I. Godson was appointed to the vacancy of Assistant School Medical Officer.

I am sure the staff would wish me to express thanks to the Chief Education Officer and the Head Teachers for their valued help and co-operation during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

K. VICKERY,

School Medical Officer.

1. STATISTICS

The number of children, including new entrants, on the school registers was 6,084 in January and had increased to 6,270 by the end of the year. One thousand and eighty-nine children were admitted during the year; 504 left on reaching school leaving age and 399 children were transferred to other authorities. The net increase compared with the end of 1951 was 238.

The average attendance of children for the year was 5,676, a percentage of 91·12. At the close of the year the number of children on the registers of the various schools were as follows:

PRIMARY SCHOOLS	<i>Children</i>
Bourne Infants	195
Bourne Junior Mixed	333
Christ Church Infants	103
Christ Church Junior	219
Friday Street Infants and Junior Mixed	89
Grammar School Preparatory	59
Hampden Park Infants	376
Highfields County Primary	338
High School Junior	172
Meads Infants and Junior Mixed	114
Motcombe County Infants	196
St. Andrew's Infants	189
St. Andrew's Junior Mixed	280
St. Joseph's R.C. School	190
St. Mary's Boys	268
St. Mary's Girls	232
St. Mary's Infants	199
St. Philip's Infants (now Roselands)	197
Trinity District	171
	3,920
SPECIAL SCHOOLS	
Open Air	47
St. Aidan's	35
	82
SECONDARY SCHOOLS	
Bedewell	432
Bourne County	542
Friday Street	20
Hampden Park	209
St. Joseph's R.C.	59
Grammar	381
High School	371
Commercial	133
Technical	121
	2268
Total	<u>6,270</u>

2. SCHOOL HYGIENE

The Sanitary Inspectors maintained during the year a close supervision of the hygiene in all the schools and reported a good general standard of cleanliness.

It can, I think, be said that on the whole the existing sanitary standard is reasonably satisfactory. There are, of course, many facilities which although desirable are for various reasons not possible in present circumstances, having regard in some cases to the age of buildings and the fact that some of the older school buildings have a limited life. When one compares the "Standards for School Premises Regulations, 1951" with the accommodation existing at some of the schools one realises that the heating of cloakrooms, more wash basins and the provision of hot water for washing are necessary features.

In some of the schools improvements have been made in the water closet and urinal accommodation.

3. PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Periodic medical inspections of pupils were carried out in the following age groups:—

- (a) Every pupil admitted for the first time to a maintained school.
- (b) Every pupil attending a maintained Primary School on attaining the age of ten years
- (c) Every pupil attending a maintained Secondary School in the the last year of his or her attendance.
- (d) Every pupil attending a maintained school on attaining the age of seventeen years.

In these groups 1,746 children were inspected. This includes "Other Periodic Inspections" of 197 children who were examined under this heading; the latter group was mainly children who were transferred from schools in the areas of other authorities.

A percentage of 11·68, which represents 204 of the 1,746 children examined at Periodic Medical Inspections, were found to have one or more defects, other than dental disease or infestation with vermin, requiring treatment.

GENERAL CONDITION.—The School Medical Record card of the Ministry of Education provides for an entry to be made in respect of each child examined of an estimate of general condition in terms of Good, Fair or Poor.

The following figures represent an attempt to conform with this custom, but I attach little value to them, having regard to the inevitably varying standards of examining Medical Officers.

GOOD	in 1,245 cases, a percentage of 71·31
FAIR (SATISFACTORY)	in 487 cases, a percentage of 27·89
POOR	in 14 cases, a percentage of 0·80

Parents are encouraged to be present when their children are undergoing periodic medical inspection, which, to be of its utmost value, must be an opportunity for a free interchange of information between doctor, parent and teacher.

One thousand and thirty eight parents of the 1,746 children examined (59·45%) were present at the inspection.

In the absence of a parent, a note is sent of any defects found to require treatment and the parent is, at the same time, recommended to seek the advice of the family doctor; a note of the findings of the inspecting Medical Officer is also sent to the child's doctor.

The necessary "follow-up" work in the homes and in the schools is done by the School Nurses:—

Number of visits by Nurses to schools	..	..	551
Number of visits by Nurses to schools for medical inspection	..	..	184
Number of visits to homes of children by Nurses	..		528

4. OTHER MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

In addition to the periodic medical inspections, regular opportunities are provided for parents, teachers and school nurses to bring forward children to be seen by the Medical Officers. One thousand, seven hundred and fifty-nine such examinations were conducted.

Three thousand, two hundred and thirty further children, who at previous examinations, periodic or special, were noted for follow up, were also seen by the Medical Officers.

5. PERSONAL HYGIENE

Children were, at the commencement of each of the three school terms, inspected for head and general cleanliness by the School Nurses. Those needing attention in connection with personal hygiene were followed up at school and, in many cases, in their own homes.

1. Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses 15,833
2. Total number of individual pupils found to be infested 102

Of the 102 children found to be suffering from infestation, verminous conditions were present in 13 cases and nit infestation in all cases.

In cases of infestation, parents were seen and given advice regarding prevention as well as treatment. Where parents were unable to deal satisfactorily with the condition, cleansing was carried out at the Authority's cleansing centres. At these centres 23 children made 36 attendances for treatment of verminous conditions and treatment of nit infestation.

The general standard of cleanliness of our school children was again, on the whole, very satisfactory. There were, however, certain families which required close supervision, the number in the year under review being 36.

6. EXCLUSION FROM SCHOOL

Ninety-seven children were excluded from school by the medical staff of the Department. The conditions for which the children were excluded, and the periods of exclusion, were:

<i>Reason for Exclusion</i>	<i>Cases</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Average period of Exclusion (days)</i>
Scarlet Fever—Cases ..	43	1,287	30
Contacts ..	28	214	8
Observation ..	1	7	7
Impetigo	4	51	13
Salmonella Typhi Murium ..	2	162	81
?Scabies	1	14	14
Conjunctivitis	5	38	8
Debility following Mumps and Whooping Cough ..	1	7	7
Cough and Cold	1	7	7
Poliomyelitis Contacts ..	2	42	21
Bald Patch on Head ..	1	1	1
Sore Throat	2	7	3
Dermatitis	1	1	1
Ringworm—Body	1	12	12
Severe Cold	1	2	2
Poor General Condition ..	1	9	9
Inflamed Ear Drum ..	1	14	14
Nasal Catarrh and Conjunctivitis	1	30	30
TOTALS	97	1905	
		AVERAGE	19·6

Three children were excluded for indefinite periods:

Boy born 11.12.38	Pseudo-hypertrophic muscular dystrophy
Boy born 10.6.45	Hæmophilia
Boy born 21.11.43	Educationally sub-normal (?educable)

7. CLINICS

The various Clinics were held as follows

EXAMINATION

<i>Acacia Villa</i>	..	..	Fourth Friday, 10 a.m.
<i>Avenue House</i>	..	..	Thursday, 2.15 p.m.
<i>Hampden Park Secondary School or Highfield Primary School</i>	..	..	Second Wednesday, 2.15 p.m.

(Additional Clinics were held at all three centres as and when required)

MINOR AILMENTS

<i>Acacia Villa</i>	..	..	Daily, 9 a.m.
<i>Avenue House</i>	..	..	Daily, 9 a.m.
<i>Hampden Park Hall</i>	..	..	Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m.
<i>Open Air School</i>	..	..	Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m.

SPEECH THERAPY

<i>Avenue House</i>	..	..	Tuesday and Wednesday during School Terms, 9.15 a.m. and 2.15 p.m.
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CHILD GUIDANCE

Avenue House:

<i>Psychiatrist</i>	..	..	Monday, 9 a.m. Thursday, 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.
<i>Educational Psychologist</i>			Thursday, 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.

OPHTHALMIC

<i>Princess Alice Hospital</i>	..	..	Special sessions fortnightly, Friday 9.30 a.m.
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DENTAL

<i>Avenue House</i>	..	..	Daily, 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.
<i>Anaesthetic Sessions</i>	..	..	Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.
<i>Orthodontic Sessions</i>	..	..	Friday, 9 a.m.

EXAMINATION CLINICS.—At these Clinics, 1,446 children made 2,547 attendances for the following conditions:

Diseases of the Skin—					
Pediculosis ..	..	..	..	..	1
Scabies ..	..	..	..	..	1
Ringworm—Body ..	..	..	..	..	2
Impetigo ..	..	..	..	..	14
Other ..	..	..	..	..	86
Eyes—					
Vision ..	..	..	..	..	121
Squint ..	..	..	..	..	21
Other conditions ..	..	..	..	..	74
Ears—					
Hearing ..	..	..	..	..	31
Otitis media ..	..	..	..	..	11
Other Conditions ..	..	..	..	..	27
Nose and Throat ..	..	..	..	..	45
Speech ..	..	..	..	..	20
Cervical Glands—					
Non-Tuberculous ..	..	..	..	..	7
Heart and Circulation ..	..	..	..	..	26
Lungs—					
Non-Tuberculous ..	..	..	..	..	39
Respiratory ..	..	..	..	..	2
Respiratory Contacts ..	..	..	..	..	5
Development ..	..	..	..	..	29
Orthopaedic—					
Flat Foot ..	..	..	..	..	8
Postural defects ..	..	..	..	..	14
T.B. Bones and Joints ..	..	..	..	..	1
Other ..	..	..	..	..	55
Nervous System—					
Epilepsy ..	..	..	..	..	3
Other ..	..	..	..	..	24
Psychological—					
Development ..	..	..	..	..	16
Stability ..	..	..	..	..	46
Rheumatism and Chorea ..	..	..	..	..	1
Infectious Diseases:					
Post infection ..	..	..	..	..	22
Contacts ..	..	..	..	..	1
Minor Injuries ..	..	..	..	..	96
Diseases of gastro-intestinal tract (Thread Worms) ..	..	..	..	..	13
Dietetic Disorders ..	..	..	..	..	2
General Debility ..	..	..	..	..	41
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..	58
					<u>963</u>

Of the total number of children seen at the Examination Clinics, 86 attended for examination in connection with the Employment of

Children Byelaws, 189 in regard to their fitness to go on a Continental holiday, 34 for admission to Boarding Special Schools, 8 for admission to the Children's Homes, 103 to ensure that they were fit to take part in a boxing tournament and 5 in connection with a Population Survey.

It has been the general policy of the Department to refer children needing treatment to their own family doctor, or, in special cases, direct to hospitals. In certain cases, nutrients and a limited number of medicaments were, on the advice of the medical officers, supplied to children attending the clinics. In this connection, the following issues were made:

Cod Liver Oil and Malt	..	..	746 cartons (1 lb.)
Viol	..	..	676 cartons (8 oz.)
Cod Liver Oil	..	..	63 bottles

Fersolate Tablets and Syrup Ferri Phosphate were also supplied.

MINOR AILMENTS CLINICS.—The number of individual children attending these Clinics was 926.

Attendances made were:

Avenue House Clinic	..	..	1,193
Acacia Villa	..	..	384
Hampden Park	..	..	396
Open Air School	..	..	181
Total number of attendances	..	..	2,154
Total number of defects treated	..	..	934

CONDITIONS TREATED

Eyes—

Blepharitis, stytes and other diseases of lids	63
Conjunctivitis	28
Foreign bodies and other eye ailments	32

Ears—

Otitis	32	123
Otitis externa	3	
Wax	7	

Skin—

Impetigo	61	42
Other septic conditions	98	
Scabies and post-scabies irritation	5	
Ringworm—Body	1	
Boils and Carbuncles	41	
Other skin conditions	81	

Injuries—

Sprains, bruises, etc.	81	287
Cuts and abrasions	92	
Other minor injuries	31	
Burns	7	

Infestation—

Pediculosis	17	211
Nits	15	

Miscellaneous

	—	32
		239
		<u>934</u>

(In 1951, 1,107 children made 2,515 attendances for 1,111 defects)

SPEECH CLINIC—REPORT OF THE SPEECH THERAPIST.—“The number of cases of severe speech defect among children in Eastbourne has not been high.

It is of the greatest importance that speech defects should be treated while the child is young; even a minor defect may become difficult for the child to overcome when he or she has reached Junior School age.

SESSIONS.—4 per week during term time, and in addition two per month for home or school visits.

Number of cases under treatment at beginning of year	10
New cases referred during the year	20
Number of cases under school age who attained school age during the year	5
Number of clinic sessions	154
Number of attendances	385
Number of visiting sessions by Speech Therapist to schools and homes	14
Number of cases discharged	14
Number of cases under treatment at end of year ..	19
Number of cases awaiting treatment	2

Defects treated—

Deafness	1
Sigmatism (inability to pronounce “S”)	4
Dyslalia (defective articulation)	14
Stammer	12
Nasality	1
Delayed Speech	1
Spastic Speech	1
Cleft Palate	1
	35

Discharged—

Dyslalia—Clear Speech	6
Sigmatism—Clear speech	1
Stammer—Much improved	4
Nasality—Clear speech	1
For treatment at Child Guidance Clinic ..	1
Treatment unfinished—left district	1
	14

Starting in September 1952, the normal sessions were varied to include six fortnightly visits to St. Aidan’s School where seven cases were treated and made a total of 38 attendances.

Defects treated—

Dyslalia	2
Delayed speech	1
Sigmatism	2
Reading difficulties	1
Deafness	1

Since September no home or school visits have been made as the fortnightly visiting session was spent at St. Aidan's School; this meant that parents of children being treated at Avenue House Clinic have had to attend the Clinic more frequently in order to see the Speech Therapist. Of the seven cases that were treated at St. Aidan's School, two did not appear to improve and the other five showed a little improvement."

(Signed) K. HANSFORD,
Speech Therapist.

CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC.—This Authority shares in a Joint Child Guidance Service, with our neighbours the East Sussex and the Hastings Education Authorities.

REPORT OF THE PSYCHIATRIST-IN-CHARGE
Statistics relating to Eastbourne Children

Number of Sessions	137
Cases seen—	
Old	37
New	60
	— 97
Total Attendances	766
New Cases referred during 1952	60
Cases treated—	
By Psychiatrist	42
By Psychologist (excluding those seen by Psychiatrist)	10
	— 52
<i>Waiting List—</i>	
1st January, 1952	15
31st December, 1952	16
<i>Analysis of New Cases—</i>	
A. <i>Source—</i>	
School Health Service	41
Parents	5
Probation Officer	1
Medical Practitioners	6
Other Agencies	7
	— 60
B. <i>Reasons—</i>	
Nervous Disorders	12
Habit Disorders	18
Behaviour Problem	17
Educational and Vocational Problem	12
Delinquency	1
	— 60

Analysis of Cases seen during 1952—

A. By Psychiatrist—

For diagnosis	37
For Treatment	42

(NOTE.—Six parents were seen by Psychiatrist)
Number of attendances, 14.

Analysis of Diagnostic Cases

Diagnosis and advice	21
Treatment and case closed	1
Under treatment	13
Awaiting treatment	2
—	37

Analysis of Treatment Cases—

Satisfactorily adjusted	7
Much improved	8
Slightly improved	—
Still under treatment	24
Observation	3
—	42

B. By Psychologist—

(a) For ascertainment of I.Q.	54
---------------------------------------	----

Analysis of ascertainment cases—

Advice regarding education	9
Vocational guidance	2
Personality Test.. .. .	1
Maladjustment	41
Emigration	1
—	54

(b) Coaching Cases—

Receiving coaching at end of year 1952 ..	11
Discharged—satisfactory	4
—	15

(c) Home Visits	—
School Visits	4

C. Psychiatric Social Worker—

Social histories	55
Interviews	332
School Visits	44
Home and Other Visits	342

In spite of the fact that we have had a full term this year, we were again compelled to carry over a waiting list of 16 as against 15 last year. This is due to the fact that this Clinic, in conjunction with the other Clinics in the County, has had to sacrifice a number of sessions in order to carry on the work at the Hastings Clinic, which has been without a psychiatrist for over a year now. It is to be hoped that the Regional Board will soon be in a position to remedy this matter.

Signed DORIS K. SMALL,
Psychiatrist-in-Charge.

OPHTHALMIC CLINIC.—Three hundred and sixty-two children (144 new cases and 218 old cases) were referred to the Ophthalmic Surgeons attached to the Ophthalmic Clinic at the Princess Alice Hospital. The Hospital Management Committee arranged for a special fortnightly session for school children.

The arrangements for children to attend these special hospital clinics are made in the School Health Department, and the ophthalmic records relating to them are returned to this Department where they are kept pending the child's next visit to the Hospital.

NEW CASES

Defects—

Myopia	53
Hypermetropia	26
Squint	28
Astigmatism	5
Inflammatory conditions	6
Other	2
No refractive error found	24
	144

Treatment—

Glasses prescribed	88
Orthoptic treatment	16
Drops, lotions, etc.	6
Observation	10
No treatment necessary	22
Referred to private doctor	1
Operative treatment	3
	146

NOTE.—Two children each received two treatments.

In addition, glasses were supplied to 108 children of the 218 children previously referred.

DENTAL CLINIC

REPORT OF THE SENIOR DENTAL OFFICER

SESSIONS.—The number of sessions devoted to inspection and treatment were:—

Senior Dental Officer	491
Assistant Dental Officer	349
	840

Of these, 49 sessions were devoted to routine inspections and 791 to treatment.

In addition, the Orthodontic Specialist carried out 42 sessions.

GENERAL SERVICES.—At the 49 sessions devoted to periodic inspection, 5,765 children were seen in the following age groups:—

Age	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Total
No.	103	796	761	482	500	484	398	479	461	468	487	232	85	23	6	5765

At the request of parents, a further 435 children were inspected at the Clinic. Of the 6,200 children inspected, 3,110, a percentage of 50·16 were found to require treatment. The number of sessions devoted to treatment was 791, and 2,486 children made 7,625 attendances. The following is a summary of the treatments given:—

Fillings—

Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	2,715
Temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	209
					<u>2,924</u>

Number of teeth filled—

Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	2,262
Temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	185
					<u>2,447</u>

Extractions—

Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	667
Temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	2,549
					<u>3,216</u>

Administration of General Anæsthetics 1,513

Other operations—

Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	3,968
Temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	857
					<u>4,825</u>

The anæsthetic in use is Nitrous Oxide gas and Oxygen from a Walton apparatus.

Dental treatment is, in the main, provided at the Central Dental Clinic, but to save loss of school time, facilities for treatment were provided in out-lying districts as follows:—

Hampden Park Secondary School—Children attending this school, as well as the children from the Hampden Park Infants and Highfields Primary Schools, were treated in the medical inspection rooms.

Swallow's Nest School—Children attending this school were treated in the school.

ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT.—One weekly clinic session was held throughout the year at the Central Dental Clinic, and 94 children made 704 attendances.

Number of cases under treatment at the beginning of the year	76
New patients	18
Treatment completed	24
Left school and treatment not completed	4
Failed to complete treatment	2
Number of cases under treatment at end of year .. .	64
Number awaiting treatment at end of year .. .	17

Some orthodontic treatment was given at the ordinary dental clinics and 728 attendances were made by 85 children.

Dentures were supplied to 31 children.

During the year, routine dental inspections were carried out at all the schools maintained by the Authority. At these inspections, 5,765 children were examined. These, together with the 435 special applications for treatment, made a total of 6,200 children seen, of whom 3,110 were found to require treatment. Out of these 3,110 children, 2,486 actually received treatment, the acceptance rate remaining, as in the previous year, at the high level of 80 per cent.

Routine inspections occupied 49 sessions and 791 sessions were devoted to treatment. Two thousand seven hundred and fifteen fillings were inserted into permanent teeth and 209 in temporary teeth. Extractions totalled 3,216, of which 667 were permanent teeth. The majority of extractions were carried out under general anæsthesia, namely nitrous oxide and oxygen, and this anæsthetic was administered in 1,513 cases.

In addition, 31 children were fitted with artificial dentures, necessitated in most cases by traumatic injury to the front teeth and their subsequent extraction.

In the orthodontic section, 94 children made 704 attendances for treatment at the weekly clinics under Mr. Norman Gray, the visiting Orthodontic Specialist, and 85 children, suffering from mal-occlusion of a less serious nature, received orthodontic treatment during the ordinary clinics.

In a previous report, mention was made of the methods used in the United States of America and in New Zealand to measure the effectiveness of the battle against dental caries, and it was pointed out that Public Health dentists there consider the number of missing permanent teeth to be a satisfactory index of the progress or otherwise of any caries control programme. In the United States an average of just over one permanent tooth was found to be missing in the fourteen year old age group, whereas in New Zealand, this figure was more than halved, making an average of under half a tooth missing per child.

In 1951, a survey was made here at an Eastbourne secondary school of a small group of fourteen year old children, and it was noted that the results were almost similar to the more satisfactory figure from

New Zealand. During 1952, the investigation was extended to include a larger number of the same age group attending three secondary schools, and as will be seen from the figures given below, the average loss of permanent teeth remains at approximately half a tooth per child.

Number inspected		296
Number of children with permanent teeth missing	..	81
Number of permanent teeth missing		150
Forty-four children had 1 missing tooth		
Nineteen children had 2 missing teeth.		
Seven children had 3 missing teeth.		
Nine children had 4 missing teeth.		
One child had 5 missing teeth.		
One child had 6 missing teeth.		

As the purpose of this survey was concerned with the effects of dental caries, permanent teeth which were known to have been extracted for orthodontic purposes and teeth which had been lost owing to injury, were not included in the analysis.

Signed M. G. BERRY,
Senior Dental Officer.

8. SCHOOL MEALS AND MILK

Mid-day meals were prepared and served as follows:—

Bourne County Secondary School	Kitchen Dining Room.
Friday Street School	Kitchen Dining Room.
Girls' High School	Kitchen Dining Room.
Grammar School	Kitchen Dining Room.
Highfield County Primary School	Kitchen Dining Room:
Meads Infants' and Junior Mixed School	Kitchen Dining Room.
Motcombe County Infants' School	Kitchen Dining Room.
Open Air School	Kitchen Dining Room.
Technical Institute	Kitchen Dining Room.
Trinity District School ..	Kitchen Dining Room.
Hampden Park County Secondary School	Kitchen Dining Room. A container service catered for children attending Hampden Park Infants' School.
St. Mary's Boys' School ..	Kitchen serving meals in School Hall for children attending this School. A container service catered for children attending St. Mary's Infants' School.

Bedewell Secondary School.	} Catered for by container service by Alma Road Central Kitchen
Bourne Junior and Infants' Schools	
Christ Church Junior and Infants' Schools.	
Roselands County Primary School (since September).	
St. Aidan's School.	
St. Andrew's Junior and Infants' School.	
St. Joseph's R.C. Mixed School.	
St. Mary's Girls' School.	
St. Philip's Infants' School (until November).	
Avenue House Occupation Centre (2 days per week)	
Commercial School, and children entitled to free meals during the school holidays.	} Catered for by Victory British Restaurant

HOT MID-DAY MEALS.—Of a total of 620,953 meals served, 71,240 were granted free. In the previous year, of the 608,293 meals served, 88,581 were granted free.

The following table shows the number of children taking meals and milk in school on a given day in February, June and October.

(Figures in brackets are those for the previous year).

MEALS					MILK	
Date	No. of Children in Schools	Free	Paid	Percentage taking meals	Total taking milk	Percentage taking milk
		PRIMARY AND		SECONDARY	DEPARTMENTS	
February	5,398	280	2,663	54.5% (58.5%)	4,557	84.4% (84.4%)
June	5,753	354	2,817	55.1% (55.6%)	4,847	84.3% (84.5%)
October	5,769	320	2,941	56.5% (56.2%)	4,858	84.2% (85.8%)

HOLIDAY MEALS.—Meals were served during the three school holiday periods:—

	Victory British Restaurant	Hampden Park Secondary School Canteen
Easter ..	1,000	339
Summer ..	2,474	483
Christmas ..	442	Nil
	<u>3,916</u>	<u>822</u>

Miss E. C. Mulcaster, Organiser of School Meals, writes:—

“When Roselands County Primary School opened in September the kitchen was not ready. Until Christmas meals were cooked at the Central Kitchen, Alma Road and served in the school hall where the pleasant surroundings are much appreciated.

1952 has shown a further increase in the number of meals served, which corresponds with the increase in the school population.”

The premises used for the preparation and storage of food in connection with the school meals system were from time to time throughout the year inspected by the Medical Officers and the Sanitary Inspectors.

The standard of cleanliness maintained was found to be generally satisfactory.

Many of the premises were provided with rinsing sinks as well as washing up sinks. The washing and sterilising of dish cloths, tea towels, etc., was satisfactorily provided for, and it was pleasing to note that most of the premises were provided with that very necessary fitting, namely, a wash basin with an adequate supply of hot and cold water for the use of the kitchen staff.

9. PROVISION OF CLOTHING

EDUCATION (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT, 1948, SECTION 5.—Various articles of clothing were supplied by the Education Authority to 86 children from 46 families. Many articles of clothing were also obtained from voluntary sources, mainly the Women's Voluntary Services.

10. HANDICAPPED PUPILS

Special Educational Treatment

Children on the Register of Handicapped Pupils at the End of the Year

(a) Blind	..	..	..	..	4
(b) Partially Sighted	..	..	..	..	7
(c) Deaf	..	..	..	..	2
(d) Partially Deaf	..	..	..	..	8
(e) Delicate	..	..	..	..	36
(f) Epileptic	..	..	..	..	2
(g) Physically Handicapped—					
Attending Day Schools	..	..	..	..	12
Attending Boarding Special Schools	..	..	..	..	2
Attending Hospital Special School	..	..	..	..	1
(h) Diabetic	..	..	..	..	2
(i) Educationally Sub-normal—					
(i) ST AIDAN'S SPECIAL DAY SCHOOL, Eastbourne.					

				Boys	Girls
Number on Roll, January	..	..	..	33	9
Admissions	..	..	..	6	1
Leavers	..	..	..	11	3
Number on Roll, December	..	..	..	28	7

Of the seven children admitted, two were transferred from the Open Air School.

Of the eleven boys who left—

Four left the district.

One was sent to a Remand Home.

Four left to take up employment; (all of whom were notified to the Local Health Authority).

One was transferred to an ordinary school.

One was admitted to a boarding special school.

Two girls left to take up employment; (both were notified to the Local Health Authority).

One was admitted to boarding special school.

Miss E. M. WILKES, Head Teacher, reports:—

“The whole of the interior of the school was re-decorated during the Summer holidays and looks much brighter. The children enjoy Education Films on two afternoons each week. During the Autumn Term the Speech Therapist came to the school fortnightly to assist seven of our children suffering from speech defects. Several of these children cannot travel to the Clinic unaccompanied. We commenced a Cookery Class at the school for the senior boys as well as the girls. The boys do useful work in the book-binding class, repairing their own readers. The Leatherwork Class is popular with both boys and girls. The running hot water in lavatory basins and bathroom continues to be most useful. We have had regular visits from many of our old pupils throughout the year. It was gratifying to see so many members of the Committee and Parents at our Open Day on 17th December, 1952.”

Arrangements were made for children attending St. Aidan's School to have an Audiometric Test at the Princess Alice Hospital. Nine parents refused to give their consent for this test to be carried out. Twenty-two children passed the screening test and three children were referred to the Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist.

(ii) ATTENDING BOARDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS 2

(iii) EDUCATION ACT, 1944, SECTION 57—

Children notified to the Local Health Authority:—

Under Section 57 (3) 3

Under Section 57 (5) 3

11. OPEN AIR DAY SCHOOL

Beechy Avenue, Eastbourne.

Fifty-six children were on the register of the Open Air School at the beginning of the year and were classified as follows:—

Delicate 47

Physically Handicapped 8

Debility and Partially Deaf 1

The children who left were placed as follows:—

Transferred to ordinary schools 23

Transferred to boarding schools 1

Left District 1

Transferred to St. Aidan's 2

School Leaver 1

— 28

The average duration of stay was twenty-three months.

The number of children on the register at the end of the year was 47:—

Delicate	36
Physically Handicapped	10
Partially Sighted	1

12. SPECIAL TUITION (HOME AND HOSPITAL)

Two children who, by reason of ill-health or physical defect, were unable to attend school were provided by the Authority with special tuition. They were:—

Boy—aged 7 years, suffering from Hæmophilia—tuition provided at home.

Girl—aged 10 years, suffering from Tuberculous Meningitis and Miliary Tuberculosis—tuition provided in a local hospital.

Twenty-two children received education while in Hospital Special Schools. These were:—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Cropwood Open Air School, Nr. Bromsgrove	—	1
Victoria Home for Invalid Children, Margate ..	1	—
Goldie Leigh Hospital School, Abbey Wood ..	5	2
Evelina Children's Hospital School, London ..	4	2
Royal National Orthopædic Hospital, Stanmore	3	3
Queen Mary's Hospital for Children, Carshalton	1	—
	—	—
	14	8
	—	—

13. INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifications of infectious diseases relating to children of school age were as follows:—

	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>	<i>Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Measles</i>	<i>Food Poisoning</i>	<i>Totals</i>
January ..	1	4	—	1	5
February	5	3	2	—	10
March ..	5	8	1	—	14
April ..	1	11	—	—	12
May ..	1	20	1	—	22
June ..	2	13	2	—	17
July ..	4	11	2	2	19
August ..	1	5	2	—	8
September	2	4	—	—	6
October ..	11	1	2	—	14
November	9	2	—	—	11
December	15	3	—	—	18
	56	85	12	3	156

14. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

A. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION—

Children between the ages of 5 and 15 years were immunised as follows:—

PRIMARY IMMUNISATION—

	<i>By Medical Officers of the Department</i>		<i>By General Medical Practitioners</i>	
	<i>Ages</i>		<i>Ages</i>	
	5—10	10—15	5—10	10—15
1st Jan. to 30th June	9	1	5	10
1st July to 31st Dec.	15	—	5	—
	—	—	—	—
	24	1	10	10
	25		20	
	Total 45			

REINFORCING DOSE—

1st Jan. to 30th June	82	79	33	17
1st July to 31st Dec...	360	152	36	25
	442	231	69	42
	673		111	
	Total 784			

At the end of the year, according to our records, 5,779 Eastbourne children between the ages of 5 and 15 had been given protection by immunisation:—

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Number</i>
5—6	704
6—7	754
7—8	553
8—9	654
9—10	594
10—11	533
11—12	457
12—13	514
13—14	511
14—15	505
Total	5,779

This represents a percentage of 82·6 of the Registrar General's estimated population of 7,000 in these age groups.

According to our school medical records at the end of the year, 5,190 children out of 6,270 on the school registers had been immunised, or a percentage of 82·7.

The schools with numbers immunised are:—

<i>Name of School</i>	<i>No. in School</i>	<i>No. Immunised</i>
Bourne Infants	195	163
Roselands Infants	197	167
St. Andrew's Infants	189	158
St. Mary's Infants	199	172
Motcombe Infants	196	157
Christ Church Infants	103	76
Hampden Park Infants	376	322
High School	543	465
Meads	114	95
Bourne Junior	333	274
Trinity District	171	118
St. Mary's Boys	268	229
St. Mary's Girls	232	191
Highfields	338	302
St. Joseph's R.C.	249	175
Bourne Secondary	542	434
Bedewell	432	343
Hampden Park Secondary	209	179
Christ Church Junior	219	195
Swallow's Nest	109	87
St. Andrew's Junior	280	232
Technical	121	119
Commercial	133	112
Open Air	47	32
St. Aidan's	35	14
Grammar	440	379
	<u>6,270</u>	<u>5,190</u>

B. VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

PRIMARY VACCINATION		<i>Ages 5 to 15 years</i>
By Medical Officers of the Department ..	1	
By General Practitioners	7	
	—	8
RE-VACCINATION—		
By Medical Officers of the Department ..	65	
By General Medical Practitioners ..	14	
	—	79

In 1951 there were 2,643 primary vaccinations and 1,597 re-vaccinations of children of school age.

15. TUBERCULOSIS

Seven children were notified during the year as suffering from various forms of Tuberculosis, viz:

Pulmonary—3.

Non-Pulmonary—4.

B.C.G. Inoculation.—In cases where children are in close contact with persons suffering from tuberculosis of the respiratory tract, parents were advised to seek advice of the Chest Physician regarding B.C.G. inoculation. Dr. A. H. Ferguson Gow reports that two boys of school age were inoculated under the Eastbourne scheme during the year.

16. SCABIES

Three children of school age were found to be suffering from Scabies: they made seven attendances at the Cleansing Section at Avenue House Clinic.

17. DIFFICULT AND PROBLEM FAMILIES

(a) The conditions under which 36 families were living were sufficiently unsatisfactory to justify the continued attention of School Nurses, Welfare Workers and other officers of the Department. In the case of 9 of these families, conditions were at times most unsatisfactory and considerable time and attention was devoted to them.

(b) THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.—Until his retirement in October, Mr. A. Banyard and subsequently his successor Mr. S. Clements, the local Inspectors assisted the Department in 14 cases involving 18 children, 9 of whom were of school age. Fifty-eight visits were paid to these families. The cases were classified as:

General Neglect	..	..	..	10
Advice and help sought	..	..	..	3
Ill treatment	..	..	..	1

14

The two Inspectors also dealt with 60 other families. Of 154 children in these families, 82 were of school age.

The classifications were:

General Neglect	..	..	..	29
Advice and help sought	..	..	..	25
Abandonment	..	..	..	1
Ill-treatment	..	..	..	3
Beyond control	..	..	..	2

60

The number of visits paid to these families was 353.

(c) JUVENILE CRIME.—The Chief Constable, Mr. Norman Frost, has kindly supplied the following statistics:

					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Sent to Approved Schools	..	..	..	..	3	—
Fined	..	..	..	..	3	—
Probation	..	..	..	..	24	3
Convicted—absolute discharge	..	..	..	..	2	—
Convicted—conditional discharge	..	..	..	..	12	1
Dismissed	..	..	..	..	1	—
Otherwise disposed of	..	..	..	..	1	—
					46	4
Cautions	..	..	..	..	56	8
					102	12
					114	

18. EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN

Under the Byelaws regulating the employment of children, it is a condition of employment that a Certificate from the School Medical Officer is produced to the employer that such employment will not be prejudicial to the health or physical development of the child, and will not render him unfit to obtain proper benefit from his education.

In connection with these Byelaws, 86 children were examined and the necessary certificates provided.

The Department co-operates closely with the Youth Employment Service and a medical report is sent at the end of each term to the Youth Employment Officer on children leaving school. As a result of co-operation between the two Departments, it is hoped that children will not take up employment which would be injurious or dangerous to their health.

Reports on 304 children and a special report on 1 handicapped child were made.

19. DEATHS OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

I am happy to record that there were no deaths of children of school age.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

Year ended 31st December 1952

TABLE 1

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS
(INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS)

(This return refers to a complete calendar year)

A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups:

Entrants	691
Second Age Group	406
Third Age Group	452

TOTAL	1549
---------------	------

Number of other Periodic Inspections	197
--	-----

GRAND TOTAL	1746
---------------------	------

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections	1759
---------------------------------------	------

Number of Re-inspections	3230
----------------------------------	------

TOTAL	4989
---------------	------

C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT

Number of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to require Treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

<i>Group</i> (1)	<i>For defective vision (excluding squint)</i> (2)	<i>For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA</i> (3)	<i>Total individual pupils</i> (4)
Entrants	15	41	50
Second Age Group	20	36	51
Third Age Group	25	58	78
Total (Prescribed Groups)	60	135	179
Other Periodic Inspections	14	14	25
Grand Total	74	149	204

TABLE II

A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1952

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
		No. of defects		No. of defects	
		Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment	Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
4	Skin	19	44	97	7
5	Eyes— <i>a</i> Vision ..	74	211	87	38
	<i>b</i> Squint ..	9	31	17	4
	<i>c</i> Other ..	7	12	66	8
6	Ears— <i>a</i> Hearing ..	8	29	17	14
	<i>b</i> Otitis Media	1	11	8	3
	<i>c</i> Other ..	5	5	26	1
7	Nose or Throat ..	13	176	26	19
8	Speech	5	32	14	7
9	Cervical Glands ..	1	92	2	5
10	Heart and Circulation	2	17	23	3
11	Lungs	2	96	17	29
12	Developmental—				
	<i>a</i> Hernia	1	9	—	—
	<i>b</i> Other	—	17	20	9
13	Orthopaedic—				
	<i>a</i> Posture	8	43	3	12
	<i>b</i> Flat Foot ..	8	30	3	6
	<i>c</i> Other	13	97	36	21
14	Nervous System—				
	<i>a</i> Epilepsy	—	6	1	2
	<i>b</i> Other	1	13	9	15
15	Psychological—				
	<i>a</i> Development ..	2	16	5	12
	<i>b</i> Stability	2	40	36	10
16	Other	42	81	173	64

B.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE AGE GROUPS

Age Groups	Number of Pupils Inspected	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrant	691	531	76·85	157	22·72	3	·43
Second Age Group ..	406	275	67·74	129	31·77	2	·49
Third Age Group ..	452	303	67·04	141	31·19	8	1·77
Other Periodic Inspections	197	136	69·03	60	30·46	1	·51
Total	1746	1245	71·31	487	27·89	14	·80

TABLE III
INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

(i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons ..	15,833
(ii) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested ..	102
(iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944)	—
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944)	—

TABLE IV
TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS)
GROUP 1—DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanness, for which
see Table III)

	<i>Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year</i>	
	<i>By the Authority</i>	<i>Otherwise</i>
Ringworm—(i) Scalp	—	—
(ii) Body	1	—
Scabies	3	—
Impetigo	61	—
Other skin diseases	222	129
Total	287	129

GROUP 2—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

	<i>Number of cases dealt with</i>	
	<i>By the Authority</i>	<i>Otherwise</i>
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	123	37
Errors of refraction (including squint)	—	439
Total	123	476
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were		
(a) Prescribed	—	196
(b) Obtained	—	Information not available

GROUP 3—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

	<i>Number of cases treated</i>	
	<i>By the Authority</i>	<i>Otherwise</i>
Received operative treatment—		
(a) for diseases of the ear	—	10
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis ..	—	140
(c) for other nose and throat conditions ..	—	16
Received other forms of treatment ..	42	225
Total ..	42	391

GROUP 4—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals	—	24
	<i>By the Authority</i>	<i>Otherwise</i>
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g., in clinics or out-patient departments ..	—	105

GROUP 5—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT

	<i>Number of cases treated</i>	
	<i>In the Authority's Child Guidance Clinics</i>	<i>Elsewhere</i>
Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	52	—

GROUP 6—SPEECH THERAPY

	<i>Number of cases treated</i>	
	<i>By the Authority</i>	<i>Otherwise</i>
Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists	35	—

GROUP 7—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN

	<i>Number of cases treated</i>	
	<i>By the Authority</i>	<i>Otherwise</i>
(a) Miscellaneous minor ailments ..	239	45
(b) Other than (a) above —		
1. Appendicitis	—	86
2. Fractures	—	124
3. Minor Injuries	211	497
4. General Debility	—	51
5. Other	—	158
Total ..	450	961

TABLE V

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers:					
(a) Periodic	..	..	..	..	5,765
(b) Specials	..	..	..	..	435
	Total (1)				6,200
(2) Number found to require treatment	..	..	..	..	3,110
(3) Number referred for treatment	..	..	..	..	3,110
(4) Number actually treated	..	..	..	..	2,486
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	..	..	..	..	7,625
(6) Half-days devoted to: Inspection	..	..	..	..	49
Treatment	..	..	..	..	791
	Total (6)				840
(7) Fillings: Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	..	2,715
Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	..	209
	Total (7)				2,924
(8) Number of teeth filled: Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	..	2,262
Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	..	185
	Total (8)				2,447
(9) Extractions: Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	..	667
Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	..	2,549
	Total (9)				3,216
(10) Administration of general anæsthetics for extraction	..	..	..	..	1,513
(11) Other operations: Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	..	3,968
Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	..	857
	Total (11)				4,825

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